(d) Yes, Sir. However, proposals are at initial stage and no details can be given.

Central Regulatory Authority for Minor Ports

3209. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to bring minor ports under a Central Regulatory Authority to regulate haphazard increase and growth of minor ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to regulate safety, environmental concerns and conservancy of Minor Ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The aspects regarding safety and conservancy of Minor Ports are covered in the Indian Ports Act, 1908. Environmental aspect is taken care of as per the guidelines issued by this Ministry and the Ministry of Environment & Forests from time to time.

Ongoing National Highways Projects

†3210. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made an assessment regarding the total length of National Highways;

(b) if so, what was the total length of National Highways in the country during the year 1999-2000;

(c) what was the width and length of each of those roads in respect of which the construction work had been completed; and

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(d) what are the names of those States where the construction work for widening the National Highways is going on?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total length of National Highways in the country at present is 52010 Kms.

(c) During 1999-2000, works of widening to two lane in a length of 481 Kms. widening to four lane in a length of 74 Kms. and strengthening weak two lane section in a length of 818 Kms. have been completed.

(d) The works of widening of National Highways are in progress in all the States.

Benefits of Traffic Aid posts on NHS

3211. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh is getting the benefit of setting up of traffic aid post because it being in the middle of the country, and a number of National Highways passing through the State;

(b) if so, the benefit given by the Central Government, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the States to which the benefit of setting up a traffic aid post has been given together with the details of the benefit given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Traffic Aid post in Madhya Pradesh has not been sanctioned so far from NH funds.

(c) No such posts have been set up from NH funds.

National Highways in Orissa

3212. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of